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**FOR
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VA Officials Present Nat'l Clinical Leadership Award to Lebanon VAMC Clinician

Award recognizes exceptional service in providing care to our Nation's Veterans

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LEBANON, Pa. – U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs senior leadership presented the 2016 Mark Wolcott Award for Excellence in Clinical Leadership to Dr. Scott T. Shreve in a ceremony held today at the Lebanon VA Medical Center.

“Lebanon is a wonderful place and has been a leader in providing care to Veterans at their time of greatest need for over twenty years,” said Dr. Shreve. “The mission of VA’s hospice and palliative care program is to honor Veterans’ preferences. Our job is to find out what is important to the Veteran and their family and help them accomplish that whatever it takes.”

“I am so grateful that VA has recognized the dramatic growth in hospice and palliative care across the agency,” said Dr. Shreve. “The care of Veterans at end of life is so important. The demographics of the Veteran population require us to be experts at it and it is an honor to be part of this growth.”

The award recognizes exceptional service in providing outstanding clinical care to our Nation’s Veterans and this ceremony marked the first time VA officials traveled to a physician’s home facility to present the award.

“This award is a huge award and is given only once a year to the top clinician and top leader in clinical care for the entire VA,” said Dr. Koji Nishimura, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Patient Care Services. “What this award stands for is recognition for a lifetime of services, it is not just about this past year, it is for a lifetime of service.”

Dr. Shreve serves as the National Director of the Hospice and Palliative Care Program for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. In that position, he is responsible for all policy, program development, staff education and quality assurance for palliative and hospice care provided or purchased for enrolled Veterans. Dr. Shreve has led the implementation and oversight of the Comprehensive End-of-Life Care Initiative to change the culture of care for Veterans with serious illness and to ensure reliable access to quality palliative care.

“We are very proud of everything Dr. Shreve has done. When I came into central office, I said if I could do one project that had a quarter or even a tenth of the impact of what you have done for this Nation and the Veterans I will have been a great success,” said Dr. Richard Allman, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Chief Consultant for Geriatrics and Extended Care Services. “We have really seen a transformation in care for seriously ill Veterans nationwide because of Scott’s leadership.”

Dr. Shreve also is at the frontlines of care and spends half of his time leading the 17-bed inpatient Hospice and Palliative Care Unit at the Lebanon VAMC.

“Dr. Shreve is a kind, compassionate and empathetic individual. He is a tireless listener and an extraordinary team builder. His medical expertise, skill and acumen are the result of hard work, keen intelligence and an absolute dedication to the patients he serves,” said Lebanon VAMC Acting Director Margaret G. Wilson. “There’s no way to accurately measure the breadth and depth on his influence in the fields of hospice care, palliative care and geriatric care. He has touched so many lives and influenced countless caregivers and support personnel. We are all so proud of you.”

The Wolcott Award is named after Dr. Mark Wolcott who dedicated more than 30 years of his life to serve and improve healthcare for Veterans. The award was established in 1996 with a category for excellence in clinical care delivery and excellence in clinical care leadership. The excellence in clinical care delivery category recognizes a practitioner who has demonstrated excellence in hands on direct patient care. The excellence in clinical care leadership category recognizes a healthcare practitioner who has demonstrated excellence through exceptional support for direct patient care providers, including support of innovations that enhance the quality of direct patient care delivery.

Dr. Shreve also serves as a clinical associate professor in Penn State’s College of Medicine. He has been awarded the Internal Medicine Distinguished Teaching Award in 2007 and 2009 and received the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Project on Death in America, Palliative Medicine Community Leadership Award in March of 2013. More recently in July of 2013, Dr. Shreve had the privilege of accepting the American Hospital Association’s Circle of Life Citation of Honor Award for the Veterans Health Administration’s Hospice and Palliative Care program. Dr. Shreve has board certifications in internal medicine, geriatrics and in hospice and palliative medicine. Prior to medical school, Scott was a corporate banker.

The Lebanon VA Medical Center is one of 168 medical centers in the nation with the sole purpose of providing world-class medical care to America’s veterans. Lebanon VAMC serves a nine county area in South Central Pennsylvania covering Adams, Berks, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry, Schuylkill and York counties. Lebanon VAMC also oversees community clinics located in Camp Hill, Frackville, Lancaster, Pottsville, Wyomissing and York. If you are Veteran, you may be eligible to receive care and benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. To learn more, call 717-228-6000.

For more information about the Lebanon VA Medical Center, visit www.lebanon.va.gov, like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/VALebanon, or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/VALebanon.

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